XXXIV. Description of Scolia fulva. By W. E. Shuckard, Esq.

[Read March, 1840.]

Scolia fulva. (Griffith's Animal Kingdom, vol. xv. page 516, plate 71, fig. 1.)

This insect was described in the following words in the work above quoted:—" Of Scolia we have figured a species which we call fulva. It is black, but entirely clothed with fulvous hairs; the basal segment of the abdomen and posterior femora black, the former shining. It is from South America."

There are some particulars in this description omitted and others erroneously stated, and all the deficiencies I am enabled to supply through the kindness of the Rev. F. W. Hope, our president, who has placed both the sexes in my hands for the purpose of describing them. The species belongs to the first section of Scolia, with three submarginal cells and two recurrent nervures. It is very rare in coloured Scoliae that the sexes are alike, but here we have a complete resemblance, except in structural details peculiar in the sexes. The following is their description:—

Head, thorax, base of abdomen and thighs black, the head and thorax covered with a dense fulvous pubescence, remainder of abdomen, antennæ, tibiæ, and tarsi of a rich fulvous red. The wings are fulvous, with their margin obscure.

In the female the abdomen has a black spot on each side of the second, two spots in the centre of the third, and an abbreviated interrupted transverse black band on the fourth, segment, and the male has the margin of the second segment black.

These insects, instead of being from South America, are from New Holland and its vicinity; the female is from Melville's Island, and the male from some part of New Holland which is unnamed. I am able thus to show foreign Entomologists what the insect is that has thus previously been incorrectly described, although well figured, especially in the coloured copies of the above work.